

White joins Ag in the Classroom

Sarka White has been selected as the new Education Coordinator for Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom (WAIC).

White is excited for the opportunity, and has many plans for the future of WAIC.

"I am eager to develop programs that have a strong literacy base so younger students can experience a wide range of agriculture topics through guided and shared reading programs in the classroom," White said.

Before coming to WAIC, White taught grades K-5 at Bairoil Elementary School in Bairoil, Wyoming. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Wyoming and a Master's Degree in Education Administration and Supervision from the University of Phoenix.

White hopes to concentrate on building strong relations with teachers, agriculture organizations and other members of the agriculture community.

"Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom's programs need to evolve as the changing face of education evolves," White said.

White has developed many plans for future projects including an online learning community with the University of Wyoming.

"These classes will allow us to dive deeper into best practices of teaching and how best to implement science, math, and reading lessons in Wyoming classrooms," said White. "In addition, will be able to reach a whole new market of teachers that are unable to attend our summer sessions."

Another goal is to change and update current materials offered through the WAIC office.

"In order to meet the needs of teachers and students in our great state we need to make sure that our material is the most up to date and linked to state and national performance standards," White said.

"We are also going to look into implementing an assessment area that can help teachers assess the standards and in turn help them with their body of evidence when documenting student learning. Ultimately, we hope to develop a group of hands-on performance-based assessments that will help students perform better on Terranova and PAWS tests."

In addition to public schools, White hopes to develop relationships with home school group and private schools around the state.

In her free time, White enjoys spending time with her husband and three children, as well as camping, hiking, swimming, volleyball, digital photography and scrapbooking.